

### The Tragedie of Hamlet

My feares forgetting manners to vnfold  
Their graund commiffion; where I found *Horatio*  
A royall knauery, an exact command  
Larded with many feuerall sorts of reasons,  
Importing Denmarke's health, and *Englands* to;  
With hoe fuch bugges and goblins in my life,  
That on the fuperuife no leaſure bated,  
No not to ſtay the grinding of the Axe,  
My head ſhould be ſtrooke off.

*Hora.* I't ſo poſſible?

*Ham.* Heeres the commiſſion, read it at more leaſure,  
But wilt thou heare now how I did proceed.

*Hora.* I beſeech you.

*Ham.* Being thus benetted round with villaines,  
Or I could make a prologue to my braines,  
They had begunne the play, I ſat me downe,  
Deuiſd a new commiſſion, wrote it faire,  
I once did hold it as our ſtatists doe,  
A baſeneſſe to write faire, and labourd much  
How to forget that learning, but ſir now  
It did me yemans ſeruiſe, wilt thou know  
Th'effect of what I wrote?

*Hora.* I good my Lord.

*Ham.* An earneſt coniuration from the King,  
As *England* was his faithfull tributary,  
As loue betweene them like the palme might florish,  
As peace ſhould ſtill her wheaten garland weare  
And ſtand a Comma twene their amities,  
And many ſuch like, as ſir of great charge,  
That on the view, and knowing of theſe contents,  
Without debate ment further more or leſſe,  
He ſhould thoſe bearers put to ſuddaine death,  
Not ſhriuing time alow'd.

*Hora.* How was this ſeald?

*Ham.* Why even in that was heauen ordinaunt,  
I had my fathers ſignet in my purſe  
Which was the modill of that Daniſh ſeale,  
Folded the writ vp in the forme of th'other,  
Subscribe it, gau'th'imprefſion, plac'd it ſafely,

### Prince of Denmarke.

The changling neuer knowne: now the next day  
Was our Sea fight, and what to this was ſequent  
Thou knoweſt already.

*Hora.* So *Guyldenſterne* and *Rofencraus* goe too't.

*Ham.* They are not neere my conſcience, their defeat  
Dooes by their owne inſinnuation growe,  
Tis dangerous when the baſer nature comes  
Betweene the paſſe and fell incenced points  
Of mighty oppoſits.

*Hora.* Why what a King is this!

*Ham.* Dooes it not thinke thee ſtand me now vppon?  
He that hath kild my King, and whor'd my mother,  
Pop't in betweene th'election and my hopes,  
Throwne out his Angle for my proper life,  
And with ſuch cuſnage, i't not perfect conſcience?

*Enter a Courtier.*

*Cour.* Your Lordſhip is right welcome backe to Denmarke.

*Ham.* I humble thanke you ſir.

Dooſt know this water fly?

*Hora.* No my good Lord.

*Ham.* Thy ſtate is the more gracious, for tis a vice to know him,  
He hath much land and fertill: let a beaſt be Lord of beaſts, and his  
crib ſhall ſtand at the Kings meſſe, tis a chough, but as I ſay, ſpaci-  
ous in the poſſeſſion of durt.

*Cour.* Sweete Lord, if your Lordſhippe were at leaſure, I ſhould  
impart a thing to you from his Maieſtie.

*Ham.* I will receaue it ſir withall dilligence of ſpirit, your bonnet  
to his right uſe, tis for the head.

*Cour.* I thanke your Lordſhip, it is very hor.

*Ham.* No belieue me, tis very cold, the wind is Northerly.

*Cour.* It is indifferant cold my Lord indeed.

*Ham.* But yet me thinks it is very ſully and hot, or my complec-  
tion.

*Cour.* Exceedingly my Lord, it is very ſoultery, as t'were I can-  
not tell how: my Lord his Maieſtie bad me ſignifie to you, that a  
has layed a great wager on your head, ſir this is the matter.

*Ham.* I beſeech you remember.

*Cour.* Nay good my Lord for my eaſe in good faith, ſir here is newly  
com to Court *Laertes*, belieue me an absolute gentlemen, ful of moſt  
excellent